

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/607,250
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q76861

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. *(Cancelled).*

2. *(Currently Amended) An inkjet recording device comprising: The inkjet recording device of claim 1,*

an image-forming component which discharges ink from a discharge head onto a recording medium on the basis of image data, so as to form an image;

a transport component which is provided with a transport belt retaining the recording medium at a predetermined position thereon, and which transports the recording medium in a longitudinal direction of the transport belt;

a position detection component which detects at least one of a relative position of the transport belt in a width direction thereof with respect to the image-forming component, and a relative position of the recording medium with respect to the image-forming component; and

a position alteration component which alters a position of image formation by the image-forming component in accordance with the relative position detected by the position detection component, wherein:

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the position detection component detects a position of at least one of the transport belt and the recording medium retained at the transport belt, with respect to the width direction of the transport belt; and

the position alteration component controls a position of the image-forming component with respect to the width direction of the transport belt, in accordance with the position detected by the position detection component.

3. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording device of claim 2[[1]], wherein the transport belt is endless.

4. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording device of claim 2[[1]], wherein the transport component transports the recording medium in at least one of a main scanning direction and a sub-scanning direction of image formation by the image-forming component.

5. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording device of claim 2[[1]], wherein the discharge head has a plurality of nozzles disposed from one end of an image forming region to another end of the image forming region in the width direction of the transport belt.

6. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording device of claim 2[[1]], wherein the ink is an oil-based ink, and the discharge head uses an electrostatic field to discharge the oil-based ink.

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7. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording device of claim 2[[1]], wherein the discharge head has a plurality of nozzles arranged in the width direction of the transport belt, the inkjet recording device further comprising:

a discharge defect nozzle detection component which, in a case in which an ink discharge defect occurs at one or more nozzles among the plurality of nozzles, detects the one or more nozzles at which the discharge defect has occurred; and

an interpolation processing component which substitutes image formation by the one or more nozzles at which the discharge defect has occurred with image formation by one or more other nozzles at which a discharge defect has not occurred.

8. (*Original*) The inkjet recording device of claim 7, wherein the position alteration component moves the image-forming component in at least one of the longitudinal direction of the transport belt and the width direction of the transport belt in order to carry out image formation using a nozzle at which a discharge defect has not occurred, in place of the nozzle detected by the discharge defect nozzle detection component.

9. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording device of claim 7, wherein the discharge defect of the nozzle comprises at least one of an ink discharge failure, a discharge amount abnormality and a discharge direction abnormality.

10. (*Cancelled*).

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11. (*Currently Amended*) An inkjet recording method comprising the steps of: The inkjet recording method of claim 10,

retaining a recording medium at a predetermined position on a transport belt which is disposed at a position facing an image-forming component having a discharge head, and transporting the recording medium in a longitudinal direction of the transport belt;

detecting at least one of a relative position of the transport belt in a width direction thereof with respect to the image-forming component, and a relative position of the recording medium with respect to the image-forming component;

altering a position of image formation by the image-forming component in accordance with the detected relative position; and

discharging ink from the discharge head on the basis of image data, so as to form an image, wherein:

a position of at least one of the transport belt and the recording medium with respect to the width direction of the transport belt is detected; and

a position of the image-forming component is moved in the width direction of the transport belt in accordance with the detected position.

12. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording method of claim 11[[10]], wherein the transport belt is endless.

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13. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording method of claim 11[[10]], wherein a direction in which the recording medium is transported in the longitudinal direction of the transport belt is at least one of a main scanning direction and a sub-scanning direction of image formation by the image-forming component.

14. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording method of claim 11~~claim 10~~, wherein the discharge head has a plurality of nozzles disposed from one end of an image forming region to another end of the image forming region in the width direction of the transport belt.

15. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording method of claim 11[[10]], wherein the ink is an oil-based ink, and the discharge head uses an electrostatic field to discharge the oil-based ink.

16. (*Currently Amended*) The inkjet recording method of claim 11[[10]], wherein the discharge head has a plurality of nozzles arranged in the width direction of the transport belt, the inkjet recording method further comprising the steps of:

in a case in which an ink discharge defect occurs at one or more nozzles among the plurality of nozzles, detecting a nozzle at which the discharge defect has occurred; and carrying out image formation using other one or more nozzles at which a discharge defect has not occurred, in place of the one or more nozzles at which the discharge defect has occurred.

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17. (*Original*) The inkjet recording method of claim 16, wherein the image-forming component is moved in at least one of the longitudinal direction of the transport belt and the width direction of the transport belt in order to carry out image formation using a nozzle at which a discharge defect has not occurred, in place of the nozzle at which the discharge defect has occurred.

18. (*Original*) The inkjet recording method of claim 16, wherein the discharge defect of the nozzle comprises at least one of an ink discharge failure, a discharge amount abnormality and a discharge direction abnormality.